

TOM PERRIELLO
5TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States

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Washington, DC 20515-4605

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March 10, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Office of the Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

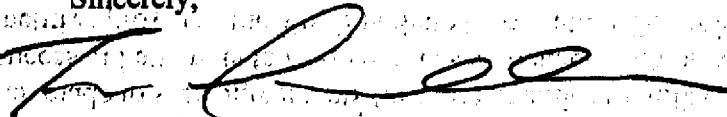
I have been contacted by several counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia regarding an issue pending before the Commission concerning NextGen 911 services. The Pittsylvania County Department of Emergency Management, the Martinsville-Henry County Communications Center, the Franklin County E9-1-1 Communications and the Patrick County E9-1-1 Office are asking for our assistance to encourage prompt resolution of pending arbitration proceedings involving interconnection agreements with incumbent telecommunications providers in the area.

Since May 2007, efforts have been made to seek agreements for these counties to utilize NextGen 911 services. After unsuccessful attempts to resolve issues associated with provisioning advanced 911 services by a competitive provider, the Virginia State Corporation Commission (VSCC) was asked to step in and resolve the issue. Ultimately the VSCC decided to defer the matter to the FCC where the proceedings have remained unresolved for 18 months.

In your testimony last year before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, you recognized that it is important for the FCC "to respond to public safety communications' needs" and "to work toward helping our country's first responders deploy 21st century technologies in support of their operational requirements." While there are many pressing issues facing the Commission, as a matter of public safety, I respectfully encourage the Commission to resolve the pending arbitration proceedings in a timely manner.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Tom Perriello
Member of Congress

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 24, 2010

The Honorable Tom Perriello
U.S. House of Representatives
1520 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Perriello:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending arbitration in which Intrado Inc., seeks physical interconnection with CenturyLink (formerly Embarq Corporation) and Verizon Communications, Inc. Intrado proposes to provide a competitive alternative to the existing 911 networks deployed by CenturyLink and Verizon in their respective territories in Virginia. In August 2008, Intrado filed a petition asking the FCC to arbitrate its interconnection dispute with Embarq, followed by a similar request in December 2008, for arbitration of its interconnection dispute with Verizon. The Commission consolidated these two requests into a single proceeding and invited public comment on how competition in the provision of the 911 network to public safety answering points (PSAPs) and other public safety agencies would affect the provision of public safety services in Virginia.

This consolidated arbitration proceeding has raised some challenging issues, and the Commission staff is completing its review of the record and working closely with the parties to seek resolution. In a meeting planned for the end of June 2010, the parties intend to discuss final procedural issues and lay out a schedule for the remainder of the arbitration. The Commission takes seriously its evaluation of the issues that the parties have raised, and you can be assured that we are conducting a careful and deliberate review of this matter.

I appreciate your interest in this proceeding. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski